

I/We choose St. Ignatius because...

Community, welcoming, inclusiveness, friendly, home, belonging: 84 mentions

- The diversity: It felt like a welcoming community when I was searching for a spiritual home
- Welcoming, inclusiveness, and diversity
- I continue to choose St. Ignatius for the growth, albeit slow, of a faith community that desires to do justice and cultivate a community who are truly kingdom-building - at the same time forming us in our own unitive relationship with God
- I love the community and feel drawn toward Ignatian spirituality
- I like the community, the message
- I was looking for a community of sinners, beggars and hypocrites like me who are also people of prayer and action
- A community welcoming and participating fully in Mass
- It is a diverse, welcoming, prayerful community
- 30 years ago it was a welcoming community and continued that way for a long time. There have been struggles at time but still is a place of welcome
- It continues to feed our spirits; it is a welcoming and diverse community
- It's a very friendly church
- Excellent sense of community and living the Gospel of Christ
- It's diverse, it's progressive, it preaches equality and justice; great community
- The feeling of inclusion and community
- When we came to Mass the first time we immediately felt an attitude of openness and welcome and a connection to the diverse community
- It gives me a sense of community and belonging
- It's a progressive Catholic community where I feel welcomed, not judged. I feel nourishment from the reflections and homilies
- Enjoy the community and school for my children
- It is the community we want to raise our children
- We enjoy the community and priest
- It is the kindest church we have ever attended
- I value the openness and love towards all
- It felt right to us, we felt at home
- I feel connected
- Feel most comfortable at this parish ...?
- It is very diverse. It is a very welcoming church and open the door to all members to be a part of the community by involving in ministries
- Beautiful service and people, open-minded and welcoming, always feel like I am at home
- I feel welcome - I feel the love
- As a returning Catholic I felt welcomed here
- I feel I belong here
- Feel at home here

- The community of people, the compassionate views of welcoming for all
- I feel comfortable here
- We have long history of being parishioners here. I value the community and seeing school friends
- An attempt to be more inclusive
- It's home, our community
- Lovely church and congregation. Always welcoming
- I like the inclusive feel of the parish.
- Welcoming atmosphere and liturgy
- Great people, and donuts, says my kids
- I was baptized in St. Ignatius Parish and can't imagine a better family to share my life with.
- It is our family, our home
- I like how nice everyone is and how Mass is
- We wanted to provide a strong sense of spiritual community to our children
- Warm feeling, unpretentiousness
- When I moved to Portland, I needed to find a new church and it felt like home instantly
- I love this community
- We love the community at both school and church
- Community and fellowship
- The community is welcoming and has supported me for my entire life
- The strong Jesuit tradition, wonderful priests throughout the years and the long time community we have found here.
- We enjoy the Mass AND THE COMMUNITY
- Everyone is so loving and accepting. The political vision aligns with my own
- The amazing community and love that we found here
- Openness and acceptance of all
- St. Ignatius is a vibrant, growing parish that serves many needs
- The priest has a good message and makes all feel welcome. Reflects how I want my children to grow
- The openness and welcoming nature of the priest and parishioners. The parish addresses and discusses topics in current events
- Fits my schedule, welcome parish
- Open and welcoming, growing family life presence, mom's group, accessibility, spirit of service
- Our Church family is here. We have grown to love and know so many friends here over these many years, we would hate to leave our parish because of them.

7:30PM Contemplative Mass, late Mass time: 49 mentions

- We like the dark Mass at 7:30 Mass
- The Contemplative nature of this 7:30 Mass. I work on weekends and 7:30 Mass allows me to go to Mass
- I really like this parish - I like the 7:30 Mass. It is very emotional to me. I know why St. Ignatius cried when he said Mass. It is very moving
- 7:30 Mass, contemplative, reverent Mass

- Time of Contemplative Mass works well depending on life/work schedule
- We have been here for many years and especially enjoy the Contemplative Mass
- I wanted to see what Contemplative Mass was like with St. Ignatius
- I love the contemplative Mass. It gives me repose, time for reflection, a homily well-written to guide me.
- The Contemplative Mass helps me to calm enough to really focus on prayer and gives me strength
- Contemplative Mass - very spiritual and peaceful atmosphere
- The Contemplative Mass is amazing
- They offer candle Mass, also the lights of Sunday Mass make it more focus on prayer and God
- We are long time parishioners at Holy Family. On occasion, we are blessed to come to St. Ignatius, particularly on Sunday evenings. Thank you!
- It provides peaceful worship in the evening

Homily, homilies, preaching, sermons: 47 mentions

- The preaching is a great Gospel
- The lay preaching
- The preaching is generally really good
- The relevance of the preaching
- Initially because we knew some members. Now because of the preaching and the spirit's presence
- Preaching is excellent
- The homily is always educational. I feel I get a lot out of it. I like being able to learn and discuss after with my family. My faith becomes stronger with more understanding
- Very good homily today.
- We love the Jesuits and their good, thought-provoking homilies.
- Best homilies, thoughtful, engaging, I live in Beaverton but drive here because it is such a high-quality Mass
- I feel nourishment from the reflections and homilies
- I am more inspired by the homilies. I went through RCIA here, was baptized here in 2002 at 40 years old. My 3 children were baptized here and 2 went through First Communion.
- The wonderful homilies and the sense of community which focuses on being people for others
- Jesuit homilies
- Reflective nature of the sermons (not very fire and brimstone and shaming)
- Amazing sermons that are relevant and relatable

Jesuit Identity/Jesuits/Ignatian spirituality: 64 mentions

- We love the Jesuits and their good, thought-provoking homilies.
- Jesuit family
- I also appreciate the Jesuit spirit of intellectualism
- We have history with the Jesuits

- Because of the Jesuits. I appreciate the liturgies that prepare me for the week ahead. Our boys were baptized here. Born and raised Catholic
- Jesuit spirituality
- We love the Jesuit approach to the liturgy
- I liked the acceptance shown - and I was looking for a Jesuit Church after coming from Gonzaga
- Jesuits seem more liberal and accepting and it's been a great introduction for non-Catholics I've brought with me
- The charism of the Jesuits, their insights and challenges for me in my faith
- I like Jesuits
- The diversity, Jesuit presence and intellectual faith
- The Jesuit approach to liturgy
- We went to Gonzaga and enjoy the Jesuit community
- A foundation of Jesuit spirituality
- First for the school then for the Jesuit community
- The Jesuit ideals & philosophy
- Forward-looking Jesuit focus for us and our children
- I attended a Jesuit undergrad and Ignatian spirituality is likely the reason I remained a practicing Catholic
- I love the community and feel drawn toward Ignatian spirituality
- It follows Ignatius' ways
- A foundation of Jesuit spirituality.
- Deep respect for Jesuits and Catholic Church
- Went through RCIA program this year, feel like the Jesuit identity aligns with my personal/political beliefs.

Social justice: 23 mentions

- I continue to choose St. Ignatius for the growth, albeit slow, of a faith community that desires to do justice and cultivate a community who are truly kingdom building. At the same time forming us in our own unitive relationship w/ God
- The parish is dedicated to justice.
- Of the work being done with eco and immigration justice
- It is a family and focused church that aligns with our environmental and social justice values
- The Jesuit focus towards learning, environmental and social justice
- The focus on ecojustice
- Chose because of the ministry to our community beyond our parish family
- Commitment to the marginalized stranger, those in need of reconciliation, the hurting, weak and lonely, essentially all of us
- Focus on the "common good"
- Contemplative orientation and deep care for mercy and justice in human affairs and for the earth

Priests: 19 mentions

- We like the work of Fr. Craig.

- Good feeling and great pastor and Fr. John
- We like the priest
- Our daughter wanted to see her old parish priest
- Really like Craig Boly and the teachings of the Church

Neighborhood church: 20 mentions

- It is in my neighborhood/I can walk
- We lived in neighborhood. We moved to NE 11 years ago but keep St. Ignatius as our parish
- It is a beautiful neighborhood church. It is close by my house. It is very convenient. I can go to church everyday

Family: 18 mentions

- Our family comes here
- Family, friends, 1975 came here
- I have been coming here w/ my daughter and her family since my husband died
- Born and raised
- It is the parish that my grandparents (1920's) started to go to when they came from Croatia. Our kids went to the school (uncles + mother, cousins, too)

Faith, spirit, God: 16 mentions

- The spirit is alive in this house, amongst all people
- The house of God and it more closer to home
- We are satisfied/happy with the spiritual growth we have been experiencing here; more services and practices emphasized this
- It makes me feel closer to our Lord
- I always feel uplifted
- The spirit is here
- It is an open, warm, diverse, reflective parish
- It is a place of life and faith
- It speaks to my heart and my spiritual longings
- Spirituality
- Presence of the Holy Spirit here
- It "fits" with my/our spiritual sense
- Life-long parishioner whose soul is normally filled with joy.
- It feels the most like our personal worship – non-judgmental, inclusive, and love-focused
- We appreciate the style of teaching and messages of hope, love, inspiration. Strong sense of faith among the parishioners
- This is the parish where I was touched by the Holy Spirit

Diversity: 12 mentions

- The diversity, it felt like a welcoming community when I was searching for a spiritual home

- We love the diversity of the parish body of Christ
- Diversity, acceptance of differences
- Welcoming, inclusiveness and diversity
- The diverse and prayerful community
- Its alive and growing parish with old and young and congregant of various communities
- It is very diverse. It is a very welcoming church and opens the door to all members to be a part of the community by involving in ministries
- More diverse and inclusive than other Catholic churches in town
- Large and diverse community and the involvement of its members
- It represents the whole Christian community in its diversity

School: 13 mentions

- I went to school here between 1949 and 1957
- It is our family parish and our children attend school here
- Long-time members, children attended school K-8
- I went to school here and it is a family tradition
- At first chose St. Ignatius because of the school being nearby. Now, love not only the school, but the church's community and our priest, Fr. Craig

Liturgy, services: 12 mentions

Atmosphere: 12 mentions

- Great atmosphere
- Lighting, mood
- Peaceful
- I enjoy the dark atmosphere
- The darkness which is good, how priest explain from the Bible
- It is quiet and a nice place to pray
- Place of peace and solitude
- Love the vibe here
- The atmosphere of the church is very calming and welcoming
- Ambience; no bright lights; feeling of peace and safe

Music: 11 mentions

- Music Ministry - keep Jess, she has an angelic voice
- Originally because of the uplifting and spirit-filled gospel like music.
- The music is so prayerful and lovely.
- It is part of my religious practice, my spirit is fed and consoled by the liturgy and music
- I love this Church and music and songs play during the Mass

Lived faith, values, current issues: 9 mentions

- Current issues (world) are addressed in homily
- The focus on Contemplation and a lived faith
- Jesuits seem more liberal and accepting and it's been a great introduction for non-Catholics I've brought with me
- Progressive Catholic ideals
- The mission agrees with me
- The wonderful homilies and the sense of community which focuses on being people for others
- I think the parish is the most progressive, in touch with real issues church I'm aware of
- It has a set of values that meets my social and spiritual needs
- We believe in the mission of the church and feel welcome as a family. We like that we are associated with the greater church but outside archdiocesan structure

Jesuit Identity: 6 mentions

- The charism of the Jesuits, their insights and challenges for me in my faith
- I like the Jesuit ID and the prayers for those whom many have hatred for like Muslims
- Initially because of Peter Burn. Then I became drawn to the spirituality, made the Spiritual Exercises and changed my prayer life radically
- We appreciate the academic, spiritual, forward-looking Jesuit focus for us and our children
- My husband is Jesuit Educated HS and college + 2 years in seminary

Marriage: 3 mentions

Baptism: 2 mentions

Other comments:

- Because it is my Parish no matter where I lived
- I love it
- I belong to St Peter's Parish but I like to come to St. Ignatius Church after work on Sunday and an English Mass because my family is from Fiji Island
- We are visiting family and experience great faith and warmth in prior visits
- Happened upon it but stayed more or less regularly
- I always find the message relevant and interesting. I feel uplifted
- A friend, now deceased, recommended it
- It is our church
- For peace, for the Priests, for cheese and wine
- My parents used to attend - this is how I found the parish. Our children attended the school
- It is home, I love the honesty that we are not perfect
- Live nearby, like atmosphere and homilies, feeling of peacefulness when come through door
- Best available worship
- We always look for opportunities to learn from ways beyond the typical traditions

- I visited a number of other parishes over the years. I've never experienced a place I'd rather be
- I was one of the confirmation students. My little brother goes to school here
- We have children and we appreciate the civic and family life activities
- We are visitors from Tacoma and we attended your church for the first time a few years ago and always look forward to coming here. Such a believing priest and parish.
- I am more inspired by the homilies. I went through RCIA here, was baptized here in 2002 at 40 years old. My 3 children were baptized here and 2 went through First Communion.
- Along with the fact that I have been going to this church for over 30 years, I believe it is a combination of things. I come primarily to listen. To listen to prayers, to listen to homilies, and to listen to the people in the pews. The babies crying... the older folks getting up and down slowly in the pews and on the kneelers. My oldest brother once said that you go to church primarily for the Eucharist.....he was a Jesuit.... Everything else pales in comparison. But in my experience of going to St. Ignatius over all these years I do think there's something very vital and important in all the other aspects from the variety of music that we have had and musicians and singers to the beautiful decorations around holiday time. From the core groups of priests that we've had over the years as well as the visiting Jesuits who come through town.....all of these things and more make up the fabric of Who We Are
- It was not a diocesan priest led People of God, which might make it more possible to implement the renewals of Vatican II.
- I am partially deaf, so we actually do not belong to parish at this time. We got to different churches around Portland, hoping to find one I can hear better at. I do wear a hearing aid, but still have trouble hearing in church.
- Emmaus account: "We had hoped" it would be a place of welcome, particularly for those abandoned and overlooked in our city, culture, but are often deeply disappointed by the decision of the pastor, staff and Pastoral Council
- It has been my parish for 20 years
- I appreciate the fact that almost every time I come to Church and learn something new I become inspired
- I like the schedule of the Masses and inspired by the people
- I love the simplicity of the building; there is a real effort made to get the parishioners to (?) the liturgy
- Have been in this parish 50+ years, I, my children and grandchildren all attended school here
- The message preached and lived reflects my spiritual disposition
- I'm trying to find a parish that's like St. Joe's in Seattle during the time of Peter Burn
- Nursery/childwatch
- We love it here
- "The tables are round" meaning we are all listened to
- Church I had been attending is "partially" following the Benedict Edict and I believe removing church from society is against Christ teaching
- I was born here and love it here
- It has been my faith community for over 30 years
- Everybody pray together

- The time of Mass is good and I feel watered here
- Our family has decided to go on a monthly pilgrimage to experience different parishes and feel even more enlightened by our faith through this experience we share together
- Referral of friend initially; liturgy and community now
- It has beautiful authenticity
- It was recommended by a friend
- I am visiting for the 4th year in a row with great pleasure of the spirit of the parish, the well done liturgy filled with reverence and the friendliness of parishioners and clergy towards visitors.
- I was looking for a parish to join, and after visiting many Portland parishes I came to St. Ignatius and heard Fr. Peter Byrne, and whatever he said really captivated my heart and soul.
- The nursery – my 4-year old can stay there so that I can go to Mass and he learns about Jesus